

- ✓ In Claim 11, line 1, delete "Claims 7-10" and insert --Claim 7--.
- ✓ In Claim 13, line 1, delete "Claims 11 or 12" and insert --Claim 11--.
- ✓ In Claim 16, line 1, delete "Claims 1-15" and insert --Claim 1--.
- ✓ In Claim 17, line 1, delete "Claims 1-16" and insert --Claim 1--.
- ✓ In Claim 18, line 3, delete "Claims 1-17" and insert --Claim 1--.
- ✓ In Claim 19, line 1, delete "any preceding";
line 1, after "claim" insert --1--.

REMARKS

The above amendments are submitted herewith to reduce multiple dependencies and to conform the claims more closely to U.S. practice.

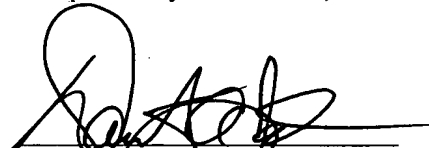
The amendments made herein are with respect to Claims 1-19 which were the claims amended during the pendency of the International Application. The amended claims were received by the International Office on May 10, 1999 and are included in the Notification of Transmittal of The International Preliminary Examination Report. A copy of the Notification, with the amended claims, is enclosed herewith for your reference.

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Entry of the foregoing amendments and early and favorable processing in the National
Phase before the United States Patent and Trademark Office is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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